

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Upon entry of this Preliminary Amendment, the status of the claims will be as is shown below. The claims in this listing will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) ~~A processing~~ method of processing a ~~formed~~ product formed by a punch press, comprising:

~~(a) a step of leaving a micro joint connecting a workpiece to a raw material for the formed product at a time of~~ when forming a slit in the workpiece along an outer shape of the raw material;

~~(b) a step of forming the formed product by positioning a bending process portion of the raw material on a lower metal mold and bending the bending process portion downward on the basis of a cooperation of an upper metal mold and the lower metal mold; and~~

~~(c) a step of dropping the formed product by separating the connection between the formed product and the workpiece by the micro joint.~~

2. (Currently Amended) An upper metal mold, comprising:

a punch guide supported to an upper mold holder in a punch press so as to be vertically ~~movable upward and downward~~;

a punch body provided within the punch guide so as to be vertically ~~movable upward and downward~~; and

a punch body provided in a lower end portion of the punch body,

wherein a bending process portion is provided in a lower end portion of the punch chip so as to protrude to a side portion; and

wherein the punch chip is provided so as to be movable in a protruding direction of the bending process portion with respect to the punch body.

3. (Currently Amended) The upper metal mold according to claim 2, further comprising:

a pressure moving mechanism for pressure moving the punch chip in the protruding direction of the bending process portion ~~at a time~~ when the punch body moves ~~downward~~ vertically.

4. (Currently Amended) The upper metal mold according to claim 3, ~~wherein the~~ pressure moving mechanism ~~comprises~~ comprising:

an inclined surface formed in an opposite side to the protruding direction of the bending process portion in the punch chip; and

a punch chip pressing member provided in a lower portion of the punch guide, the pressing member being slidable with the inclined surface.

5. (Original) A lower metal mold, comprising:

a die main body detachable with respect to a lower mold holder of a punch press, the die main body having a die hole formed therein; and

a plurality of bending process edges formed at a plurality of positions in an inner peripheral edge of the die hole, the bending process edges bending a workpiece,

wherein each of a plurality of dimensions from a center of the die hole to the plurality of bending process edges is differentiated so as to be capable of corresponding to the workpieces having different thicknesses.

6. (Currently Amended) A lower metal mold, comprising:

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a die main body that is detachable with respect to a lower mold holder of a punch press, the die main body having a die hole formed therein; and

a die chip-structuring that forms a part of an inner peripheral edge of the die hole and that is provided with a bending process edge for executing a bending process of a workpiece,

wherein the die chip is provided so as to be detachable with respect to the die main body.